



Silent Night Standoff

Susan Sleeman

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HOSTAGE SITUATION

When armed robbers strike her bank, hostage negotiator Skyler Brennan's life is on the line. Rescue comes from the last person she thought she could count on?the ex-boyfriend who chose his job over their relationship. FBI agent Logan Hunter knows how much is resting on this case. The promotion of his dreams...and the safety of the woman he's never been able to forget. But when an unexpected twist in the case pulls Logan in two separate directions, he'll have to make an impossible choice. Will he manage to have it all by Christmas?a career and love?or will he lose them both?

First Responders: Brave men and women alert and ready for danger and love.

Silent Night Standoff Details

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Author : Susan Sleeman

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From Reader Review Silent Night Standoff for online ebook

Saraya K Costello says

Great Suspense

This has been a great series. I sort read this one out of sequence , but because I read the other books the characters were still the same. I look forward to reading the last book in this series. I would recommend reading Ms. Sleeman books.

Shirley says

“She wasn't on duty. She'd just stopped in to cash a check for her upcoming Christmas party for homeless families.”

But it wouldn't be just another day for Skyler Brennan. Bonnie and Clyde was in the bank, waving weapons at everyone. Bonnie and Clyde is what the media called them and today they had everyone on the floor as hostages in Skyler's bank and Skyler was one of those hostages. The worst part; Skyler could tell Clyde was coming down from whatever drug he had taken. She was a negotiator but could she negotiate the safety of everyone in the bank?

Deciding rescue was best left to her team, the very people she knew and trusted; Skyler would do her best to protect as long as she could. However rescue came, not just from her team, but a man she thought she would never see again. Logan Hunter, the man who broke her heart by choosing his career over her, had unknowingly come to her rescue.

The intensity of “Silent Night Standoff” will grab you from the first page. Author Susan Sleeman doesn't play around, she jumps right into what is happening and doesn't hold back. Susan expertly intertwines the case and what is happening between Skyler and Logan throughout the story. And not just Logan! You're introduced to her team who are her trusted friends. You will not want to put this book down.

Susan Sleeman writes for Harlequin Love Inspired Suspense. “Silent Night Standoff” is the first book in the First Responders series and will be available November 4, 2014. You can pre-order if you like. The Kindle edition comes out November 1, 2014. I am now anxiously awaiting her next book in this series.

Sandra Webb says

A really good book that was hard to put down. Loved the characters. Plan to read the whole series.

Laura says

Title: SILENT NIGHT STANDOFF
Author: Susan Sleeman
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HOSTAGE SITUATION

When armed robbers strike her bank, hostage negotiator Skyler Brennan's life is on the line. Rescue comes from the last person she thought she could count on—the ex-boyfriend who chose his job over their relationship.

FBI agent Logan Hunter knows how much is resting on this case. The promotion of his dreams...and the safety of the woman he's never been able to forget. But when an unexpected twist in the case pulls Logan in two separate directions, he'll have to make an impossible choice.

Will he manage to have it all by Christmas—a career and love—or will he lose them both?

SILENT NIGHT STANDOFF is Ms. Sleeman's best book yet. I've enjoyed all her books so far, but as true with most writers, the books keep getting better. I liked the fact that the "bad guy" wasn't jumping out from behind sofas, but was more "out in the open" with his attacks. I liked the way Skyler had a whole team plus one who cared for her safety. I hurt for Logan, trying to take care of Skyler and deal with his dad's rejection at the same time as trying to win over officers in a whole new area while striving to win a coveted promotion in a separate part of the country. I didn't like the way Skyler reacted to him, but judging by the hurt she felt over his rejection (in the backstory) it was entirely realistic. I hoped that she'd be able to work out her anger and trust issues. I hoped they'd catch the "bad guy". The whole suspense seemed pretty cut and dried for most of the book, but there was a twist I didn't see coming. Recommended. Available in ebook and paperback. 224 pages.

Kav says

Exciting start to what looks to be a fantastic new series. I love how the author takes the time to set up the characters who will 'star' in the next books. There's such camaraderie amongst Skyler's squad. Kindred spirits in a self-made family. And take a look at the cover. Wait...isn't that a fire station in the picture? But this is a book about an FBI agent and a deputy sheriff so how does that book cover fit? Perfectly. Uber cool, actually. You'll have to read Silent Night Standoff to find out why.

Taut action and plenty of suspense keep Skyler and Logan on high alert...and conveniently interrupt the rekindling of a past romance. Skyler is still smitten, but she's older and wiser. Logan never stopped loving Skyler but his priorities are all messed up. Stubborn, stubborn man. There's a touching Christmas tie-in that wraps up their love story in perfect holiday fashion. An awesome holiday read!

Katrina Epperson says

I absolutely love reading Susan Sleeman stories. Her books always bring an underlying theme about faith that anyone can use in any situation. This story revolves around Skyler Brennan and Logan Hunter who have a history that hasn't ended well. Skyler fell in love with Hunter years ago, but he walked out on their relationship so he could fulfill his dreams of making his father proud of his accomplishments. After an

intense hostage situation Skyler and Hunter meet again in the line of duty as officers of the law. If Hunter can solve these sting of robberies then he will get a much coveted promotion, but for Skyler it's much more personal since she was one of the hostages. Skyler is disappointed in Hunter because his actions show he's reverted back to the man he was when she first met him years ago. His determination for his father's approval has led him down a path that is far from the path God wants him to walk. As the case heats up the one thing Skyler is certain of is that the heart and brain don't always agree. Logan wants to protect Skyler because she's the one he could never forget. When he sees himself through her eyes he wants to show her that he's the same guy she fell in love with, but his need for the promotion shows otherwise. A wonderfully written suspenseful romance that brings us strong, well developed characters. The fast paced storyline kept me turning the pages until the end. I would recommend this book to anyone.

Valri Western says

I love watching those one-hour procedural police dramas on TV. I don't enjoy seeing the "blood and such" but I enjoy the "edge of your seat" tension and cutting edge technology they use to solve the case. THAT'S why I love Susan's books. She produces the same feelings in me! I know when I open one of her books, I will be taken on a fast-paced ride of some kind and I probably will be unable to put down the book for long! Such is the case with Silent Night Standoff. Skyler is just minding her own business, doing some banking when all of the sudden, she's in the middle of an armed robbery. Thankfully, she's a hostage negotiator for the First Responders in Portland and she's able to send a text to the leader, alerting him. The robbers, of course, are of the "serial" variety, which mean they've done this several times so Logan Hunter of the FBI gets called in. Only problem? He's the ex-boyfriend of Skyler and he dumped her because the job was #1 for him - he didn't think he could do a relationship and a job at the same time. However, seeing Skyler in that bank with two bank robbers is taking him to his knees! When one robber is killed and the other escapes, Skyler and Logan must work together, along with the other First Responders to figure out who is trying to kill Skyler. Is it the bank robber or someone else? The suspense keeps you turning those pages fast and the ending is unexpected. The relationship between Skyler and Logan goes through a lot of ups and downs and Logan tries to figure out "balance". He's always thought trying to please his father was what he had to do but what if he stopped doing that? A fabulous book...can't wait for the next book in the series already!

Amy Bradsher says

Silent Night Standoff rings all the right bells as a holiday romance. With strings of lights and charity events woven throughout the story, love is the bedrock of the plot on many levels. Forgiveness is just as important to the romantic element of the story as the action that flies in the face of the danger that each person faces. Silent Night Standoff isn't a fluffy romance. It's a hardcore crime story with two people sharing great future potential. Their feelings collide every time danger approaches, which it does with amazing frequency. Between car bombs, road rage, hostage situations, and explosions, the action is high on every page, making it the perfect book for both die-hard romantics and crime fanatics alike.

One of my favorite aspects of this story was the character of Skyler. She's not your typical heroine - while she's brave and smart, she isn't described as drop-dead gorgeous, as so many leading ladies are, and yet her inner beauty shines through. Skyler seems like the girl next door - a bit quirky with ingrained habits and pig-tailed cuteness. She has strong bonds with her coworkers and has worked hard to overcome personal difficulties. She's admirable and obviously makes a good friend - which makes her extremely likeable in my book.

Susan Sleeman's books are new to me, but I'm looking forward to reading many more. Silent Night Standoff combines my favorite story elements - mystery and suspense with romantic drama - and I can't wait to read the rest of the books in the First Responders series.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Kim hansen says

A good suspense.

Chelle says

I came across Susan Sleeman during a Christian Fiction Scavenger Hunt, I believe, and recently discovered the opportunity to read her new release Silent Night Standoff and decide if I would be a good fit for her street team "Partners in Crime". I finally picked up the book Sunday night after having it for about two weeks or so - while I got caught up on other obligations (other book reviews among them).

I noticed in the "ad" that this was A Love Inspired Suspense book - that helped me take the plunge into reading Silent Night Standoff - Book One in the First Responder Series. I used to receive a couple of different books in the Love Inspired group monthly - in paperback form (it was like Christmas every month getting "real" books in the mail), but eventually I ran out of bookshelf space and graduate school got the better of me, so I had to cut out that subscription.

Reading the back cover had me a little bit skeptical, to be honest, it sounded a tad on the cheesy side and I wasn't sure if the story would adequately portray the law enforcement profession and would just be a sappy love story. (I find that I am being more picky in the stories I read, because I've suffered through a couple that were ridiculous and decided to try not to repeat that often if I can avoid it.)

Page one had me sucked in to this wonderfully written story! Poor Skyler! I can only imagine how difficult it would be for an off-duty officer to find themselves in a robbery, hostage situation, or any other scenario that they are trained to deal with on a daily basis. The way she handled the situation was amazing and the faith she still had in her first responder squad even though she was a part of the bank robbery/hostage situation was spot on! Her complete faith in her team has everything to do with her faith in God.

Logan Hunter seems to show up at an opportune time and it makes you a little bit wary of his intentions, a little bit "Why now? or Too Little, Too Late". He grows on Skyler's team (and you - eventually!) At times, Logan's drive makes you want to quit reading, while at the same time, makes you want to read more to see how he handles everything that is thrown at him on this case.

The story flies by and seems to end too soon, but with an incredible ending - one that I didn't expect. Well maybe I did, but just not quite this way...I hope we continue to see glimpses of Logan and Skyler throughout the rest of the series! As the story progresses you "meet" the team at work and home. You wonder what their stories are and how they ended up here - luckily you will find out in time - the rest of the team has their own stories in the remainder of the series.

Check out this book at <http://www.susansleeman.com/books/fir...> and Susan Sleeman on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SusanSleeman...>

I received a copy for my unbiased review from the author in exchange for my honest review and the opportunity to join her street team, if we were a good match.

Becky says

Father's Blessing vs. Faithful Love...

Fans of Dee Henderson will enjoy this series by Susan Sleeman. First book in the First Responders series, the starkness of the first sentence creates immediate tension that builds upwards as the crisis ensues. Skyler Brennan is a hostage negotiator that finds herself by chance in the middle of a robbery by a dangerous couple dubbed "Bonnie and Clyde." While Skyler has a team of co-workers who are surrogate family, more tension is introduced when her former boyfriend, FBI agent Logan Hunter returns. He asserts his authority over the team which both irritates and pleases Skyler.

With the hostage crisis only partially resolved, much of Logan's time back in town focuses on protecting Skyler. So he can get his promotion to please his implacable father. When the chips are down, which will Logan finally choose, his career, as he did years earlier, or his love for Skyler? Both seem to have a powerful hold over the man, but which will be the making or breaking of this confused man? Perhaps "Silent Night Standoff" refers to more than just the robbery, but to Skyler's aversion to totally trust Logan... he just can't seem to get over the importance of his father's blessing that will come with a promotion.

Wow! I didn't think I liked Logan very much... then I realized just how much a parent's blessing can mean to a child. It can even be terribly important to an adult child who is a Christian. I thought this book was better for the fact that the two main characters had some outstanding flaws(don't we all!) and they seemed to realize that growth would come by littles. I'm anxious to see which one of Skyler's "team" Sleeman will focus on next! They are all a little quirky!!

I received this ARC book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Leisa Wilkins says

I enjoyed Silent Night Standoff, the first book of the First Responders Series. She set the table for the series in a way that engaged me and making me feel right at home with the characters. I enjoyed them all and look forward to reading the next books in the series.

This book began with a deputy, Skylar, who is also a hostage negotiator and part of the first responder team, being in the bank as a robbery takes place. It moves on to a rookie making a mistake, the FBI, Logan her ex, being on site, and grows from there. While there is a lot going on in this book, a robbery, a concussion, intended care ramming's, sniper shots, kidnapping, bombs, potential promotions, past relationship issues, and so much more, it all ties together and comes to an ending I didn't see coming. There's more to this book than solving the bank robbery. Things are not what they seem.

I'm looking forward to getting to know the other members on the team in their books and I'm glad the story doesn't just end here. While this book can be read alone, no cliff hangars, I loved the team and wanted to learn more about them.

This book is also about redemption, motives, drive, and second chances. You get a sense of family between people who are not related but work together and have become a family that care about each other and is there for each other. Subtly the book reminds you of the gift of God's grace, love and acceptance. It makes you confront motives and learning when enough is enough in trying to win acceptance from people. Sometimes there really is nothing we can do to win that acceptance and we have to accept God's acceptance, love, and validation of us. If you don't you'll spend your life making choices for others that may not be the

best ones for yourself.

I recommend this book. I think you will enjoy it.

Sherrill says

Start of a new series holds promise...just five books to go now! :)

Julie Graves says

I love suspense and I love romance, wrap them together and I'm in book heaven! I enjoyed both of the main characters. At first Logan wasn't very likeable because of his drive to impress his father with his career advancements, but as the story unfolded and he began to realize how much Skyler meant to him, he became much more likeable to me. Skyler was definitely more grounded in her faith than Logan, but she had issues as well. Having been ignored by her parents as a child and Logan abandoning her once before she definitely had some trust issues. Add to that a bank robbery, and several threats on Skyler's life SILENT NIGHT STANDOFF definitely satisfied my suspense/romance craving.

Cathy Daniel says

Great start to what's sure to be an epic series! Love the premise of the first responders living in a restored fire station. Can't wait to see them all get happy endings :) loved the characters and thought the distrust was very realistic and understandable given the hurt she endured from him years ago. Another winner from Susan Sleeman!
